

Peace Resources Committee
February 2012
Report to Continuing Committee

Dear Friends,

The committee was pleased to meet on February 18 in the beautiful Clear Creek House at McNabb. Meeting at this location was particularly important and helpful because of our continued exploration of the Peace House on the Prairie vision on behalf of ILYM. In attendance were committee members: Dawn Rubbert (2014), Kent Busse (2012), Mark McGinnis (2012), and Breeze Richardson (2013); regrets were sent by Michael Batinski (2012) and Phyllis Reynolds (2013).

While we were gathered one of the valuable threads of conversation was elaborating on what "Peace House on the Prairie" means to us given the existence of Clear Creek House. As we reviewed the Site Visioning plans, many suggested spaces are a welcome sight: workshop space, meditation space, increased lodging, the labyrinth & walking trails are all a perfect fit. Other spaces we discussed included a bookshop/giftshop, art studios and artist retreat spaces, and permanent Quaker-In-Residence space alongside caretaker facilities.

While a full-time resident administrator is something we see in the future, it seems enough resources are in place that event planning and oversight could be managed now by ILYM committees interested in bringing Friends together for peace education, environmental education, spiritual enrichment and community-building. PRC is discussing what level of programming we'd like to propose for 2012-2013, and is looking into the idea of partnering with other Quaker organizations to assist with presenting workshop facilitators and speakers.

To learn more about the Yearly Meeting's interests, PRC plans to sit with Friends as outlined in the 2011 Annual Report to listen to area Meetings as they seek to deepen their peacefulness - among Friends and out to the world - as well as to collect input regarding how Quakers can have a positive impact on our communities.

Lastly, we are continuing to develop our Quaker Peacemakers Archive Project. To be more formally debuted at 2012 Annual Sessions, we are working on the interview format & possible archive destinations. If there is a Yearly Meeting member you want included, we are collecting names (to be sent to Dawn Rubbert, dawn@aglifpt.org).

Our work with the "How Do You See Peace?" blog continues to go well. To-date, we have published 64 posts, received 143 comments, and enjoyed nearly 8,500 views.

PRC would like to state our appreciation again to Clear Creek Friends for providing us hospitality last weekend. It is so refreshing to gather in person as Friends & Clear Creek House offers a special opportunity for us to do so in a rich and rewarding space.

In the Light,
Breeze Richardson, clerk